BULL

The Peters Angus Fifth Spring Bull Sale will be held on farm on Friday 26 September at 2pm, with some top quality rising two year old bulls on offer.

"We've taken care of the wintering so the hard work has already been done. The bulls are simply set to go out and do the job. Our clients don't have to pay for the bulls until October which also helps their cashflow. It's our point of difference that works well and keeps the farmers happy."



LATEST VENTURE IN WANAKA



Their latest venture is a satellite operation they have set up at Mt Brown, Wanaka under the management of Stacey Anderson, better known as "Lowie".

"He is running our promers (romney/merino cross and merino/romney cross sheep). All half bred ram hoggets have been side sampled at shearing. Really pleased with wool results averaged 22 micron. The first two tooth rams will be sold from here this year.

The Peters also recently purchased the Lochern Perendale Stud from Alan and Annette Williamson from Oturehua.

We're trying to cover all fields so we are also crossing the perendales to produce merino/perendale and perendale/ merino. We believe there is a huge potential as they result in dual purpose sheep that will add value to farmer's businesses.

LOOKING AFTER THE FUTURE

Peters Genetics have reintroduced their annually awarded bursary to financially assist a student enrolled in either the Lincoln Univeristy Diploma in Agriculture or the Telford Certificate in Agriculture. Upon the completion of their studies, the successful student will come and work at Peters Genetics. This year, Mikayla Pearson from Masterton was the successful recipient and will join us this summer.



Irrepressible 234 selected as link ram

The Perendale stud ram, bred and owned by the Williamsons from Ida Valley, has been selected as a link ram for the Beef and Lamb New Zealand Central Progeny Test, which aims to help sheep farmers identify the best genetics across sheep breeds.

The ram has already been widely used with 1,000 progeny on the ground, so he was arguably one of the most prolific breeding rams in New Zealand.

The first trial 234 was in was a meat-yield trial undertaken by the Perendale Sheep Society of New Zealand, which he topped in its first year.

The Lochern Perendale stud was registered in the early 1980s with the purchase of 23 ewes from the Ben Braggie stud in the Maniototo. The decline in the sheep industry was one of the factors for selling the stud, which Peters Genetics have recently bought.

LOOK OUT FOR A FAMILIAR VOICE:

Peters Genetics are now running ads on Hokonui, Radio Live and LiveSPORT. Has anyone heard them? Trevor himself has voiced these ads and had been doing interviews with Jamie McKay on the Farming Show, with former All Black turned farmer Richard Loe who hosts the popular farming show "On The Field" on LiveSPORT and the Farming Muster with Jonny Turner on Hokonui.









Catch up on the Southern Farming Muster with Jonny Turner



PETERS GENETICS

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Client Newsletter - Spring 2014

Leading into the Year of the Sheep

- maybe we will see some sheep conversions?

2015 is the Year of the Sheep, according to the Chinese zodiac - The Royal Mint has just unveiled a coin to celebrate this year.

Peters Genetics are committed to sheep, we believe in sheep and we want to keep woolsheds alive. And here's our very own news from our local shepherd:

What's Trevor been up to?

We came through the best autumn for many, many years, good rain from mid-January onwards. Mating was a dream, plenty of feed and winter was very kind until about 5/6 July. In came the rain, no frosts, just rain to the 25th August. Scanning, shearing and all the other events taken place but it was difficult for all lower South Island sheep farmers. It took 29 days for us to shear 7,000 ewes at Clutha Downs, which I have been running again. Good sound thinking farmers never look back, always forward and so we did from August 26th.

Unfortunately we've lost four of our staff members over the last months, all going on to greener pastures. Mark Jane our tractor driver, Eric Harris, manager of our finishing farm at Waikaka, Lawrence Jackson – shepherd at Spylaw and Clint Robertson, manager from the Clutha Downs property who was only with us for a short time. A very big thank you from all of us here at Peters Farms. So we've recently started advertising for staff to replace these men and have had a good response that means most positions are now been filled.

Karen and I have been lucky enough to take a week away up to the North Island to visit our daughter, Justine and help our son-in-law with the "docking" and enjoy time with our grandchildren.



Chatting up the Minister of Finance?

Putting ourselves on the Line



Trevor and Karen were one of six finalists in the prestigious Lincoln University Foundation South Island Farmer of the Year for 2013.

"It was great to see how our farming business measured up from the point of view of outside experts and good recognition for the hard work the family, and our priceless farm managers and staff from the office lady, to our cook, junior shepherds and truck and tractor drivers put into running it."

Trevor says he and Karen are always thinking ahead and looking at new opportunities, with family succession at the heart of everything they do.

"We see ourselves as caretakers of the land who follow good farming and sustainable practices to help the next generations of our family carry on farming."



"Breed Bulls and Rams that earn farmers extra bucks"







PETERS GENETICS (MOVE UP-BEAT!!)

Peters Genetics have joined forces with Alliance Group, AbacusBio and UK supermarket - Sainsburys, to extend their ram progeny test in order to enhance profitability for New Zealand sheep farmers. However, this progeny test will have a few differences with data being collected for additional traits such as pelt thickness and parasite resistance.

The parasite resistance programme is being linked with new technology developed by Techion Ltd: the FECPAK G2 system. It is available to the Peters' breeding programme

through their involvement in the Sainsbury Producer group. For Alliance Group and Sainsbury, the advantage of using this technology on the Peters progeny test programme is that the information can be used to further develop better genetic sires for parasite resistance, something which is good for our whole industry.

Data from the progeny test will also be integrated with data being collected as part of an ongoing evaluation of lamb performance on high sugar ryegrass, in conjunction with Germinal Seeds. The High Sugar Grasses, AberMagic and AberDart are now in their third season of assessment at Spylaw. Progeny will be slaughtered through the Alliance Group plant in Lorneville where carcass composition traits will be collected along with VIAScan data. Adding the progeny test element will allow Alliance Group and Abacus Bio to assess the relations between feeding and breeding as progeny will be compared, from different sire lines, on different forages.

Peters Genetics have invested in these trials to ensure that we can continue to deliver superior genetics to assist with on-farm productivity.

"Spylaw's 17,700 lamb potential - Wow"



As I'm sitting down to write this (mid August) it's windy and cold, there is snow lying on the ground, the water tables are topped up once again, creating more mud (if only mud made money!) and Heriot just lost the South/West rugby final to Lawrence/town!

Lambing last year was good - 150% to the ram.

We had an average weight of 17.9 kg of lambs to the works. A kg behind last year as we had no clover due to the clover weevil coming through.

Things were very wet during July - to the extent a neighbour texted and asked if we wanted a seat on the ark they were building!

Scanning this year has been great:

Earlies 192% 207% Commercial mixed age Commercial 4 tooth's 201%

Commercial 2 tooth's 175% (didn't scan for triplets)

200% Stud mixed age 187% Stud 2 tooth's 144% Hogget's - all studs and heaviest commercial's 82% = ones in lamb

So there is a potential for 17700 lambs on the ground. We just need the weather to play its part and for the grass to grow.

All dry hogget's are out on grazing to make room for lambing ewes, but even then it's going to be tight.

Clayton & Jeannette Peters

"Morgan's Brief"



New Covered yards at Bullock Range - after the snows of Winter 2013

STUDS

200% including triplets

2 tooth studs 180% including triplets (194% overall)

B mob (terminal) 181% not including triplets **MA** commercial 181% not including triplets 22th commercial 158% not including triplets

Overall 181% **Hoggets** 70%

Potential of 11,777 lambs - 6500 ewes. Average lamb kill weight for 2013 -18.96 kg. 2013 season 141% lambing

Congratulations to the ANZCO Lamb Producers of the Year - twice!!!

We farm in the Owaka Valley on a 270 Hectare (240 Effective) property running 3250 stock units 90% sheep and 10% Cattle. We started using Peter's Genetics in 2007 over our Perendale/Wairere flock which followed on from using North Island Wairere since 1996. We try to run a simple operation and any stock that does not perform is culled.

Ewes are wintered on swedes, hogget's are grass fed all winter and the cattle are put in to rougher bocks. No hay/balage is made or fed to stock during the winter, and crops are usually only in for 1 year to try and spread the grass renewal. No specialist lamb crops are put in.

Ewes normally scan 180%/185% excluding triplets and Hogget's have been up to 107%.

Lambing is fairly laid back with Ewes checked for cast and some bearing's put in. No mothering up is done and spare lambs are sold to the neighbour for their lamb raising system.

Ewes are only drenched if they need to be orally and inlamb Hogget's had a capsule this year. Lamb losses in the Ewes are about 14% plus triplets and 18% in the Hogget's.

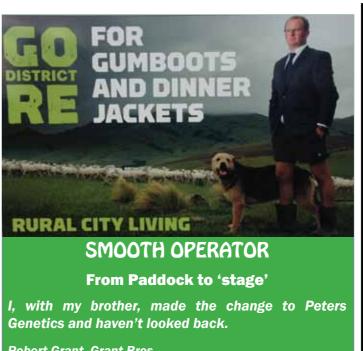
Last year we tailed 153% in our Ewes and 82% in our Hogget's to the Ram.

We had to wean early December 2013 because of no grass (dry) but still averaged 18.8kg (including Hogget Lambs) for the season. We try to have only 10/15% of lambs left at tupping.

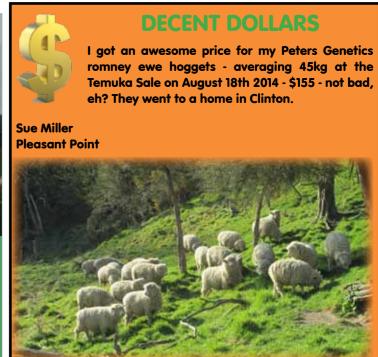
Our lambs go to ANZCO (CMP) and we have won Lamb Producer of the Year twice. The prize was a trip to the UK to look at the operations at Dalehead (processing plant) and Waitrose stores which our lambs are sold to. It was a great experience on how it all works and to see where our lambs are sold, and the expectations of our UK customers was a real eye opener.

Wool has not been forgotten about with the ewes being shorn every 8 months producing bright, high yielding 40 micron wool. We find our flock performs well in our operation and has the ability to recover from challenging times.

Wilson and Angela Wylie



Robert Grant, Grant Bros.



Sue's ewe hoggets at home

Enclosed is your ram order form, please fill in and return by 30th October. **Cheers from the Peters Team**